



June 6, 2012

Dear [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Analysis Results for [REDACTED] Humboldt Township, Marquette County, Michigan

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) collected a sample from your private water supply on March 22, 2012. Enclosed are tabulations of the sample analysis results. The EPA sampled your water supply to assess if past activities at the nearby Humboldt Mine and Mill site had affected groundwater and individual water supplies in the area.

The concentrations of inorganic substances and metals detected in the water supply samples were below established federal and state drinking water standards and health concern levels, and were similar to groundwater quality generally found in Central Marquette County. While it is entirely normal within the region, it is noteworthy that manganese was detected at a concentration higher than the secondary drinking water standard, 50 micrograms per liter (ug/l). The secondary standard is not a health-risk standard. It is an aesthetic water quality standard.

The water supply sample contained arsenic at a concentration of 9.19 ug/l, which is very near the health risk-based standard of 10 ug/l. Arsenic is a naturally occurring groundwater contaminant. Some people exposed over a long period to elevated levels of arsenic in drinking water may experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. With arsenic present in your water supply at a concentration so close to the health risk-based standard, we recommend you consult with your local health department about monitoring or treatment options.

The water supply sample contained manganese at 119 ug/l. Water containing manganese at concentrations above the secondary standard may cause staining of plumbing fixtures and laundry, and may have objectionable turbidity, color, and odor.

The EPA and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) appreciate your cooperation in these investigations. If you have questions about the sampling efforts, please contact Nuria Muñiz at 312-886-4439. If you have questions about the analysis results, please contact Chuck Thomas, DEQ by phone at 906-346-8534 or email at thomasc3@michigan.gov.

EPA will be in Humboldt Township on June 19, 2012 to present general results about well-water sampling to the public at a community meeting. No site-specific results will be identified by homeowner address during the presentation.

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You also may make an appointment to discuss your results in person during our visit in Humboldt Township. Please contact Community Involvement Coordinator Don de Blasio, 312-343-6666, or by e-mail at deblasio.don@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Nuria Muñiz
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Superfund Division
Region 5, Chicago IL

Charles H. Thomas, P.G.
Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality
Resource Management Division
Upper Peninsula District Office

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Dana DeBruyn, DEQ
Mr. Steve Harrington, DEQ
Mr. Patrick L. Jacuzzo, Marquette County Health Dept.
Mr. Don Deblasio, EPA
Mr. Mark Johnson, ATSDR